2/2/71

Dear Lou,

This information, for whatever it is worth, is for you only unless you ask me to get permission for you to pass it on. It is what is known as a literary property, not mine. While you may recently have had most of your contact with writers who regard everything of anybody's as theirs, the fact is that a literary property is a much a man's private and personal property as the money in his pocket. I respect it.
(Allan Ginsburg)

My immediate source ought to be dependable. His source is a famous man, which in my mind does not, in itself, make it dependable information. This man, however, is in a position to know, because he seems to be part of that culture.

The story has two parts. First, that the Mafia is easing out of the dope racket, turning it over to Cuban refugees (of which there seems to be some confirmation in recent arrest records, the most recent one in yesterday's papers). The second has Ferrie involved in it.

While I have no reason to believe you (plural) have any further interest in Ferrie and from every indication can assume the contrary, I also assume that you do have interest in dope in your area.

This source is in New York. I got this information by phone today. As you realize, I have no personal knowledge. If there is anything you would like me to try and learn, ask me. I can't go to New York now for a variety of reasons, on which money, presently, is not the most important. But in six weeks or less I expect to have to be there.

Part of the story has Ferrie flying the stuff. Because it was by phone, I didn't seek many details.

I realize that this can be feedback on something that originated in N.O.

I let my subscriptions to the N.O. papers runs out. If you have any extra clippings on the Shaw hearings, I'd like to read them and keep that file up to date.

Best,